Extra land in Bombay available with Railways

2014. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the area of extra land available with Railways in Bombay;

(b) whether it is a fact that Railways propose to sell this extra land for commercial purposes in order to raise resources;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) 12 acres.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) This land is under encroachment by hutment dwellers and has been offered to the State Government on relinquishment, exchange or licence basis for undertaking slum development works.

Basic amenities provided to passengers

2015. SHRI VIRAN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:—

(a) whether there exists a list of basic amenities which the Railways are supposed to provide to its passengers:

(b) if so, what are these amenities;

(c) if so, why such a list has not been prepared so far;

(d) how the Railways measure their performance in providing passenger amenities in the absence of such a list;

(e) whether it is a fact that while the passenger earnings have been increasing substantially, expenditure on amenities has remained static/has risen only slightly; and

(f) what steps are being taken to provide better facilities to the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Basic amenities to be provided at stations are as under:—

Regular and Flag stations

(i) Waiting Hall

(ii) Benches

(iii) Suitable arrangements for lighting, waiting hall and booking office.

(iv) Drinking water supply.

(v) Latrines.

(vi) Platform with well maintained surface.

(vii) Proper booking arrangements.

(viii) Shady trees.

Halt stations

(i) Rail level platform of suitable length.

(ii) A small waiting shed-cum-booking office.

(iii) Lighting where trains stop at night.

(iv) Shady trees.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) Under various relevant plan heads, passenger amenity works were given an average annual allocation of Rs. 6.16 crores during the Sixth